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Office of Environmental Assessment (OEA) EPA Region 10 1200 Sixth Avenue, STE 900 Mailstop: OEA-095 Seattle, WA 98101

RE: Comments on Lower Yakima Valley Nitrate Study

To whom it may concern:

Intertox is pleased to provide the included technical memorandum on the U.S. EPA document, *Relation Between Nitrate in Water Wells and Potential Sources in the Lower Yakima Valley, Washington.* 

We reviewed the report to assess whether it adequately meets a minimum level of scientific reliability to support valid conclusions. We examine a number of components of U.S. EPA's work presented in the document, including sampling and analytical program design and data quality issues, data presented for specific sample types and locations, the U.S. EPA-commissioned peer review of the Phase 3 report, and U.S. EPA's conclusions.

Thank you for the opportunity to present the attached comments. Please do not hesitate to contact us if we can provide any additional information to you.

Sincerely, INTERTOX, INC.

Gretchen Bruce, DABT Director of Toxicology

Enclosures (1)